

COUNTRY: USSR (Rostov Oblast)

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SUBJECT Construction of a Mechanical Plant in Rostov

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1. In Rostov (47°15'N/39°53'E), about 1 km north of the Rost-Sel Agricultural Machine Plant, construction of a mechanical plant started in May 1947. The PW's employed for construction work were withdrawn in May 1949 and replaced by soldiers of a construction unit. The plant was scheduled for completion by the 1949 anniversary of the October Revolution. However, source does not believe that this target date was kept. The buildings of the plant were either brick or brick and reinforced concrete structures. Most of the machines were of German origin, only 10 percent were of Soviet make. The construction of a railroad spur was planned. The road leading to the factory was built by PW's in 1948. A tar road around workshop No 1 was the first road to be built in the plant area. Other roads were scheduled to be built after completion of the other workshops. The plant area, measuring 900 x 500 meters, was surrounded by a cement wall 2.5 meters high.
2. The plant repaired trucks and road construction machinery. Source believed that later motor vehicles would be built in the plant. The plant's work force consisted of 50 civilian workers and 15 PW's in addition to the 140 PW's employed for construction work. The PW's were replaced by Soviet soldiers.*

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Comment. See Annex for a layout sketch of the plant. This is the first information on the construction of a mechanical plant in Rostov. The statements require confirmation.

1 Annex: Sketch.

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